

**CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND  
RESEARCH**

*APPLICATION NUMBER:*

**022516Orig1s000**

**APPROVAL LETTER**



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration  
Silver Spring MD 20993

NDA 022516

**NDA APPROVAL**

Eli Lilly and Company  
Lilly Corporate Center  
Indianapolis, IN 46285

Attention: Matthew Kuntz  
Manager, US Regulatory Affairs

Dear Mr. Kuntz:

Please refer to your new drug application (NDA) dated May 15, 2009, received May 15, 2009, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Cymbalta (duloxetine hydrochloride), 20, 30, and 60 mg Capsules.

We acknowledge receipt of your amendments dated July, 31, August 4 and 14, September 15, October 7 and 19, 2009, January 11, 15, 25, and 26, February 2 and 8, March 8, May 28, June 11, July 19, August 6, September 13, and October 1, 6, and 14, 2010.

This new drug application provides for the use of Cymbalta (duloxetine hydrochloride) Capsules for the management of chronic musculoskeletal pain, as demonstrated in studies in patients with chronic low back pain and chronic pain due to osteoarthritis.

We have completed our review of this application, as amended. It is approved, effective on the date of this letter, for use as recommended in the agreed-upon labeling text as indicated in the enclosed agreed-upon labeling text.

We request that the labeling approved today be available on your website within 10 days of receipt of this letter.

We are waiving the requirements of 21 CFR 201.57(d)(8) regarding the length of Highlights of prescribing information. This waiver applies to all future supplements containing revised labeling unless we notify you otherwise.

**CONTENT OF LABELING**

As soon as possible, but no later than 14 days from the date of this letter, submit, via the FDA automated drug registration and listing system (eLIST), the content of labeling [21 CFR 314.50(l)] in structured product labeling (SPL) format, as described at <http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/DataStandards/StructuredProductLabeling/default.htm>, that is identical to, except with the revisions listed/indicated, the enclosed labeling (text for the package

insert, text for the patient package insert, Medication Guide). Information on submitting SPL files using eLIST may be found in the guidance for industry titled “SPL Standard for Content of Labeling Technical Qs and As” at

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/UCM072392.pdf>.

The SPL will be accessible via publicly available labeling repositories.

### **CARTON AND IMMEDIATE CONTAINER LABELS**

We acknowledge your January 11, 2010, submission containing final printed carton and container labels.

Marketing the product with FPL that is not identical to the approved labeling text may render the product misbranded and an unapproved new drug.

### **REQUIRED PEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS**

Under the Pediatric Research Equity Act (PREA) (21 U.S.C. 355c), all applications for new active ingredients, new indications, new dosage forms, new dosing regimens, or new routes of administration are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product for the claimed indication(s) in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived, deferred, or inapplicable.

We are waiving the pediatric study requirement for this application because the necessary studies would be impossible or highly impracticable to conduct. There is a low incidence of chronic musculoskeletal pain due to chronic low back pain and pain due to osteoarthritis in pediatric patients; therefore, conducting the necessary studies would be highly impractical.

### **RISK EVALUATION AND MITIGATION STRATEGY REQUIREMENTS**

We acknowledge receipt of your voluntary submission dated May 15, 2009, of a proposed risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS). We have determined that, at this time, a REMS is not necessary for Cymbalta to ensure that its benefits outweigh its risks. We will notify you if we become aware of new safety information and make a determination that a REMS is necessary.

### **PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS**

You may request advisory comments on proposed introductory advertising and promotional labeling. To do so, submit, in triplicate, a cover letter requesting advisory comments, the proposed materials in draft or mock-up form with annotated references, and the package insert to:

Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications  
5901-B Ammendale Road  
Beltsville, MD 20705-1266

As required under 21 CFR 314.81(b)(3)(i), you must submit final promotional materials, and the package insert, at the time of initial dissemination or publication, accompanied by a Form FDA 2253. For instruction on completing the Form FDA 2253, see page 2 of the Form. For more information about submission of promotional materials to the Division of Drug Marketing, Advertising, and Communications (DDMAC), see <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/CDER/ucm090142.htm>.

### **LETTERS TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS**

If you decide to issue a letter communicating important safety-related information about this drug product (i.e., a “Dear Health Care Professional” letter), we request that you submit, at least 24 hours prior to issuing the letter, an electronic copy of the letter to this NDA to the following address:

MedWatch Program  
Office of Special Health Issues  
Food and Drug Administration  
10903 New Hampshire Ave  
Building 32, Mail Stop 5353  
Silver Spring, MD 20993

### **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

We remind you that you must comply with reporting requirements for an approved NDA (21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81).

All 15-day alert reports, periodic (including quarterly) adverse drug experience reports, field alerts, annual reports, supplements, and other submissions should be addressed to the original **NDA 021427** for this drug product, not to this NDA. In the future, do not make submissions to this NDA except for the final printed labeling requested above.

If you have any questions, call Ayanna Augustus, Ph.D., Regulatory Project Manager, at (301) 796-3980.

Sincerely,

*{See appended electronic signature page}*

Bob Rappaport, M.D.  
Division Director  
Division of Anesthesia and Analgesia  
Products  
Office of Drug Evaluation II  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

Enclosure:  
Package Insert  
Medication Guide

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**This is a representation of an electronic record that was signed electronically and this page is the manifestation of the electronic signature.**  
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/s/  
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BOB A RAPPAPORT  
11/04/2010